CITY COUNCIL . ATLANTA, GEORGIA

N ORDINANCE BY

PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

01-0-0150

AN ORDINANCE TO SUSPEND THE ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE ATLANTA MUNICIPAL COURT OF ORDINANCE 00-O-1983 THAT WAS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 4, 2000 AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON DECEMBER 12, 2000.

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2000 the Council of the City of Atlanta, Georgia adopted legislation to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Atlanta so as to replace Article III, "Discrimination Generally" with Article III "Non-discrimination in Public Accommodations" and amend Article V and VI of Section 94 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Atlanta so as to create New Sections, to be entitled "Fair Private Employment" and "Enforcement" and to renumber the existing Article V "Domestic Partnerships" as Article VII; to repeal conflicting ordinances; and for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, said legislation was subsequently signed by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Article VI "Enforcement," Section 94-120 "Civil Actions by Aggrieved Persons" of that legislation states that "(a) An aggrieved person may commence a civil action in the Atlanta Municipal Court or any other court of competent jurisdiction not later than two years after the occurrence of the alleged act of discrimination or unlawful practice and (b)... Any aggrieved person seeking compensatory damages shall also have the right to demand a jury trial."; and

WHEREAS, aggrieved persons may also, prior to, or instead of, filing suit in a court of proper jurisdiction, may file a complaint with the Human Relations Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Human Relations Commission may subpoena, and should persons fail to obey a subpoena, the chair (of the Commission) may petition for its enforcement in the Atlanta Municipal Court; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta Municipal Court does not now have the resources for the enforcement of this legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA GEORGIA that the enforcement provisions of Ordinance 00-O-1983 relating to Municipal Court, adopted by the Council on December 4, 2000 and approved by the Mayor on December 12, 2000 is hereby suspended until further notice.

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